



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/711,328	09/10/2004	Brian Arnott	060494-0002	5327
20572	7590	03/13/2006	EXAMINER	
GODFREY & KAHN S.C. 780 NORTH WATER STREET MILWAUKEE, WI 53202			GORMAN, DARREN W	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3752	
DATE MAILED: 03/13/2006				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Examiner-Initiated Interview Summary

Application No.

10/711,328

Applicant(s)

ARNOTT, BRIAN

Examiner

Darren W. Gorman

Art Unit

3752

## All Participants:

(1) Darren W. Gorman.

(2) Sonali Srivastava.

Status of Application: \_\_\_\_\_

(3) \_\_\_\_\_

(4) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Interview: 8 March 2006

Time: 8:15 AM EST

## Type of Interview:

- ☒ Telephonic  
☐ Video Conference  
☐ Personal (Copy given to: ☐ Applicant ☐ Applicant's representative)

Exhibit Shown or Demonstrated: ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, provide a brief description:

## Part I.

Rejection(s) discussed:

NA

Claims discussed:

Claims 1 and 14

Prior art documents discussed:

Halter et al.

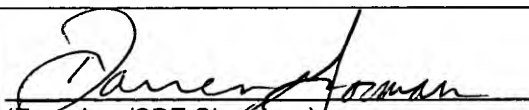
## Part II.

SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW DESCRIBING THE GENERAL NATURE OF WHAT WAS DISCUSSED:

See Continuation Sheet

## Part III.

- ☐ It is not necessary for applicant to provide a separate record of the substance of the interview, since the interview directly resulted in the allowance of the application. The examiner will provide a written summary of the substance of the interview in the Notice of Allowability.
- ☒ It is not necessary for applicant to provide a separate record of the substance of the interview, since the interview did not result in resolution of all issues. A brief summary by the examiner appears in Part II above.

  
(Examiner/SPE Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Applicant/Applicant's Representative Signature – if appropriate)

Continuation of Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was discussed: The examiner initially contacted Applicant's representative to propose adding specific language to the independent claims regarding method steps of extinguishing fire on a burning oil-topped water surface, since it is deemed by the examiner that the recitations added by Applicant in the response filed January 11, 2006 would not result in a fire extinguishing material that would extinguish fire any differently than the crushed glass fire extinguishant disclosed by Halter et al. However, upon further review and careful consideration of Applicant's disclosure, the Examiner regretfully indicated that he cannot find any clear support for language regarding a burning oil-topped water surface. Applicant's representative countered with a proposal to add method step limitations wherein the glass forms clumps with the fire containing surface and removing the clumps from the fire containing surface. Upon careful consideration of Applicant's proposal, the examiner indicated that there is no clear support in the disclosure for glass forming clumps with a "fire containing surface" and that the step of removing said clumps from the fire containing surface is not a step of extinguishing a fire. With respect to extinguishing fire with the crushed glass, the Examiner can only find two examples in the disclosure, neither of which provide adequate support for the proposal regarding glass forming clumps with a fire containing surface and removing the clumps from the fire containing surface. All other examples in the specification only discuss application of the crushed glass to oil spills without mentioning a fire containing surface. Further, it is essentially the examiner's position that any non-flammable particulate material, crushed glass included, applied in a sufficient quantity to a fire would inherently cause smothering of the fire (i.e. reducing the intensity of the fire), regardless of how the particulate material was processed before using as an extinguishing material. .